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1/22/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Handelsman et al	Examiner: Not yet assigned
Application No: 09/877,406	Art Unit: 1636
Filed: June 8, 2001	Attorney Docket No. AVI-001.03
For: <i>Microorganism Genomic Compositions and Methods Related Thereto</i>	



Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

CERTIFICATE OF FIRST CLASS MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on September 21, 2001.

*Michael R. Philbin*

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

Prior to substantive examination of the above-referenced patent application, please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification:

On page 1, please replace the two line paragraph below the heading "**Related Applications**" and insert the following replacement paragraph:

-- This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/969,651 filed November 13, 1997, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/956,692 filed October 24, 1997, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/063,230 filed October 23, 1997. --